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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER)

SUBJECT: SUGGESTED DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR VICE PRESIDENTIAL
VISIT

1. DURING COURTESY CALL BY TOUSSAINT AND FLECK ON PHILIP-
PINE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES BELISARIO ON MARCH 7, BELISARIO
HANDED FLECK LIST OF "POSSIBLE TALKING POINTS" FOR VICE
PRESIDENT'S VISIT. HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD REQUESTED
HIM TO SUBMIT SUCH A LIST BUT HE WISHED TO CONSULT WITH
USG BEFORE FINALIZING AND TRANSMITTING IT.

2. BELISARIO'S PROPOSED LIST WAS AS FOLLOWS:
"POLITICAL

A. HUMAN RIGHTS - IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT THE
PHILIPPINES HAS DONE A LOT TO IMPROVE THE HUMAN RIGHTS
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SITUATION.

B. EXTENSION OF VETERANS MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER
HOSPITALIZATION PROGRAM TO FIVE YEARS INSTEAD OF ONE.
C. SECURITY ASSISTANCE (THERE IS AN ADMINISTRATION
PROPOSAL OF \$37.3 MILLION FOR THE PHILIPPINES FOR 1979.)
D. STATUS OF UNDOCUMENTED FILIPINO ALIENS IN THE
UNITED STATES.

ECONOMIC

- A. ASEAN, PARTICULARLY FOR THE COMING RP-US (SIC) DIALOGUE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION, DATE.
- B. RESUMPTION OF FORMAL ECONOMIC TALKS.
- C. INCREASED TARIFF AND FIXED FEE IMPOSED BY U.S. ON SUGAR IMPORTS.
- D. RP-US AIR AGREEMENT.
- E. CONCERN OVER REPEAL OR RADICAL MODIFICATION OF TAX-DEFERRAL INCENTIVE.
- F. INCREASED TEXTILE QUOTA FOR RP."

3. ON MARCH 20 FLECK DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH BELISARIO AND HANDED HIM FOLLOWING LIST OF PROPOSED TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION WHICH EA BELIEVES MORE FEASIBLE, GIVEN TIME CONSTRAINTS OF VISIT:

"POLITICAL

- A. MILITARY BASE DISCUSSIONS
- B. HUMAN RIGHTS
- C. REGIONAL STRATEGIC/POLITICAL SITUATION AND THE ROLE OF THE PHILIPPINES

ECONOMIC

- A. ASEAN, PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO THE US-ASEAN MEETING IN WASHINGTON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- B. INCREASED EFFORTS AT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (FOOD, ENERGY).
- C. TRADE QUESTIONS."

4. POINTING OUT THAT TIME FOR DISCUSSION WOULD BE LIMITED, PREVENTING VICE PRESIDENT FROM GETTING INTO GREAT DETAIL, FLECK STATED EA'S OPINION THAT VICE PRESIDENT WOULD NOT BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ITEMS B,C, AND D ON BELISARIO'S POLITICAL LIST. WITH REGARD TO ECONOMIC LIST, FLECK SAID QUESTION OF TAX DEFERRAL INCENTIVE LIKELY TO COME UP IN ASEAN CONTEXT AND THAT SUGAR IMPORT TARIFF AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN TEXTILE QUOTA COULD BE SUBSUMED UNDER "TRADE QUESTIONS". HE POINTED OUT THAT DISCUSSIONS REGARDING AIR AGREEMENT HAD BEEN HELD RECENTLY IN MANILA AND THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT THERE WOULD BE ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENT PRIOR TO VISIT WHICH WOULD WARRANT DISCUSSION BY VICE PRESIDENT. BELISARIO AGREED.

5. BELISARIO COMMENTED THAT HE HAD INCLUDED "RESUMPTION OF FORMAL ECONOMIC TALKS" BECAUSE HE BELIEVED AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN WERE PRESSING FOR NEGOTIATIONS. FLECK REPLIED THAT THIS WAS NOT THE CASE AND THAT SINCE NEITHER USG NOR

GOP WAS PRESSING FOR NEGOTIATIONS, EA BELIEVED SUBJECT SHOULD NOT BE RAISED, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF PRESIDENT MARCOS' REMARKS ON "MEET THE PRESS" INTERVIEW MARCH 8 TO EFFECT THAT NO MOVEMENT EXPECTED ON ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL AFTER CONCLUSION OF BASE NEGOTIATIONS. BELISARIO SAID HE DID NOT THINK GOP WOULD RAISE SUBJECT. HE AGREED TO SEND BUREAU'S PROPOSED LIST TO GOP.

6. FOR MANILA. EMBASSY SHOULD UTILIZE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE GOP THINKING TOWARD SHORT LIST CONTAINED PARA 3 ABOVE IN LIEU OF ANY MORE DETAILED LIST SIMILAR TO BELISARIO'S ORIGINAL PROPOSAL (PARA 2 ABOVE). BASE NEGOTIATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS WILL OBVIOUSLY BE ON TOP OF BILATERAL PRIORITY LIST, WITH ISSUES OF INCREASED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOOD PRODUCTION AND SUPPLY, DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATE ENERGY RESOURCES AND OVERALL TRADE/COMMODITY AND INVESTMENT PICTURE. DEPARTMENT WOULD WELCOME YOUR ASSESSMENT OF TOPICS MARCOS IS LIKELY TO RAISE WITH VICE PRESIDENT OR ADDITIONAL TOPICS YOU BELIEVE VICE PRESIDENT SHOULD RAISE.

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